

AUI Students Attitudes towards Mixed Dormitories: Their Influence on Academic  
Performance

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## Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explore the reasons that may push Al Akhawayn university (AUI) students to live in mixed dormitories, and what might be the influence on their academic performance. The literature review revealed that mixed dormitories are on the benefit of students since they perform better academically and that students consider living this experience as a right. To approach this topic, both quantitative and qualitative methods were used. The tools used in this research were 100 surveys handed out to AUI students, 20 surveys to AUI students' parents, and 20 to Exchange students. Furthermore, two interviews have been conducted with the Dean of Students' Affairs and the Housing Office Administrator for the purpose of taking benefit from their significant experience in dealing with this issue. The results showed that among the reasons that may push AUI students to live in mixed dormitories are more opportunity to study with the opposite sex, learn more from the other gender, and change the routine of living with the same sex. Also, it has been found that AUI students do not think mixed dormitories have anything to do with academic performance, it can neither improve it, nor worsen it. This study could be used by AUI administration because if they want to try mixed dormitories, the findings would be of a big importance since they reflect AUI students' opinions and their parents' ones about mixed dormitories. Also, the results could be used for a further study.

## Introduction

Education is an important aspect in people's life; it aims to improve and increase students' academic outcomes. In fact, these outcomes are influenced by many factors. Among these factors are the quality of housing and its policy, which can either push students to perform better in their academic studies or impede their educational careers. At the end of the day, students find themselves so tired and exhausted after having a hectic day full of pressure. Rooms in this case are a good place to relax in and dull their tiredness; furthermore, it is a place where students can accomplish their tasks. However, if these circumstances are not satisfied, this might negatively influence their academic performance. In most cases, two-roommate from the same gender face disagreements. As a result, the solution may be "sharing living space and all the responsibilities with the opposite sex" (Wikipedia, 2006), which is known as mixed dormitories.

Mixed dormitories is an important research topic in Morocco as there are strong, opposing points of view. Some Moroccans see this topic from religious perspective; in other words, they believe that living in mixed dormitories is strictly forbidden by Islam, while others separate this topic from religion and see it from secular perspective.

The field of this study was Al Akhawayn University, which is located in Ifrane, a small town in the Middle Atlas Mountains of Morocco. It pursues an American educational system along with Moroccan culture. The purpose of this research paper was to conduct a research about the reasons that may push AUI students to choose mixed dormitories or not, and to investigate its possible influence on their academic performance.

Since two members of the team were living in Building 26, where the housing office is located, they had noticed that the housing administrator was, most of the time, receiving two-roommates complaining about the behaviors of each other. Furthermore, the majority of AUI students were facing problems with their roommates, the fact that pushed them to ask for

a single room. These reasons motivated the team to choose this topic and discover whether mixed dormitories would be the solution.

In this research paper, the main question was: “If students at Al Akhawayn had the chance to live in mixed dormitories, would they want to live this experience, what are the reasons that would push them, and what do they think the results might be?”

In this research paper, the team members came up with four assumptions. First, the majority of students who choose to live in mixed dormitories want to be closer to the opposite sex. Second, mixed dormitories liberate students from traditions. Third, life in mixed dormitories is cool and exciting. Finally, problems with the same gender are more numerous than with the opposite one.

#### Literature review

The topic of the reasons that push students to choose mixed dormitories and its influence on their academic performance was chosen deliberately since “few studies have examined the link between gender and residence hall experiences as an influence on academic success”.( Pascarella & Terenzini, 1991).

After scanning the Journal of College & University Student Housing in the article “The Influence of Residence Hall Community on Academic Success of Male and Female Undergraduate Students”, it was realized that living in the same gender building can create problems concerning students’ studies (Ongyi, 2004). In this idea, it is implicitly meant that mixed dormitories serve students better academically. More precisely, students from the same gender have a competitive spirit with each other. Therefore, they tend to avoid mutual interaction concerning their studies.( Arboleda ,2004 ). This study was included because the main concern of it is to know what is the suitable kind of dormitories that meet students’ needs academically.

Actually, Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., has already allowed the option of living in mixed dormitories regardless to the gender. This decision was behind the campaigns of students who consider the fact of not allowing mixed dormitories as discrimination (Henneman, 2003). From this examination, it is inferred that students feel more comfortable in mixed dormitories, for they are the ones who asked for it. After evaluating these studies, it seems that there is no problem in having mixed dormitories; however, they should be floors of girls and others for boys. In other words, students can meet in the gender blind rest room without penetrating to each other rooms.

In other universities like Smith College, students refer the act of refusing mixed dormitories to inequality between males and females students; as a result, they have even voted to change the pronouns “she/her” and “he/his” with “the student” (Henneman 2003). It is clear that being in mixed dormitories is among the aspects of equality between males and females students.

Also, studies have shown that living in mixed dormitories can be an interesting experience if they follow certain rules. First, they must respect the opposite sex by avoiding the snide remarks that may hurt or disturb the opposite gender. They have to avoid dating people living with them in the same dorm. Besides, students must concentrate on their studies without wasting time. More precisely, if students want to live in mixed dormitories, their relationship with others must be based upon respect and friendship (National Association for College Admission, n.d.).

From the research done, it was realized that these studies converge at the same point. The first study shows that mixed dormitories are on the benefit of students since they perform better academically. The second study proves that students themselves are the ones who ask for living in mixed dormitories, and they pretest to obtain the consent of their universities. Finally, the last study shows that students consider the prohibition of mixed dormitories as an

aspect of unfairness as they are convinced that every student has the right to choose the conditions in which s/he can feel comfortable. It is deduced from the research done that mixed dormitories can be implemented if students respect their limits. Finally, mixed dormitories, in students' points of view, are among their rights, so it should be allowed.

Using Al Akhawayn University as a field of our research will help us to find out new reasons behind choosing mixed dormitories and its effects on their academic performance.

## Methodology

### Design

The research is about the factors that may push students at Al Akhawayn University to choose mixed dormitories if they had the chance to, and its influence on their academic performance. In this project, we have deal with the quantitative method which was helpful to get statistical information and transform it into charts and tables. As a result, people's perceptions concerning mixed dormitories would be clear. However, the qualitative method was also relevant to this research because it is based upon observation and description, which was important in this case since mixed dormitories are not a reality at Al Akhawayn, and participants needed the opportunity to describe, in their own words, what they think might be the effects of implementing mixed dormitories.

The type of our research was both predictive and exploratory. Prediction was an important part in this research since AUI population did not experience mixed dormitories, so their points of view were based on prophecy. Furthermore, exploration is another significant part in this project because it was not known whether mixed dormitories is a problem at AUI or not which means that there was no idea about whether AUI population is interested in this subject or not.

### Subjects

The sample size was 100 of AUI students, because according to table 1 in Reading 5, we were prepared to accept approximately 10% of errors. The sample was particularly important for this study because it is the source of the data used in analysis and interpretation. Also, the sample was chosen to be as representative as possible in order to generalize the results in an accurate and a significant way. The sample contained both students who are for and students who are against mixed dormitories, from different genders, different schools, and different academic levels in order to compare the results and thus draw the right relationship and conclusion. Also, we have selected about 20 exchange students since the number of these students is not high. Finally, we have chosen to ask approximately 20 AUI students' parents as few of them visit their children on the weekends.

### Procedures

As tools, three structured surveys were used and personal interviews were conducted. From every tool, we have concluded specific kind of data.

On the one hand, surveys are a good technique for gathering data from people and providing different opinions. This tool was suitable for our query because it is easy to conduct and quick to perform. As a result, we were able to collect relevant data by far. We did three surveys. The first one with AUI students; it has included both open and close questions which purpose was gathering characteristics about the subjects, then it asked them about their own opinions concerning mixed dormitories, the reasons that may push them to choose living this experience, and what they think might be the influence on their academic performance. The second survey concerned Exchange students; the survey asked them whether they have already lived the experience of mixed dormitories and to describe its impact on their comfort, and on their academic success. The third survey has discussed parents' points of view about different sex buildings, and whether they will allow their children to live this experience. To

make this process easier, questions were explained to parents in other languages (Arabic, French).

Because of the sensibility of the issue, it was written on the head of the paper of each survey a small introduction to ensure the participants the confidentiality of their answers, and that the results will be used for academic purposes.

On the other hand, two interviews were conducted which was beneficial to this research since it was a special opportunity to gather specific data about mixed dormitories at AUI. It was also an occasion when open questions were used and directed with respect to the subject. The first interview was with the dean of students' affairs; He was asked 11 questions in order to share his opinion about mixed dormitories. The second interview was with the housing administrator who was asked the same questions in order to make a comparison between the answers of the two interviewees

### Results

In this paper, the major questions are about the reasons that may push students at AUI to choose mixed dormitories, and what might be its influence on their academic performance. As tools, three structured surveys were used; the first one with AUI students, the second with their parents, and the last one with Exchange students. Also two surveys were conducted with both the Dean of Students Affairs and the Housing office Administrator.

The results of 100 surveys filled out by AUI students will be presented in this section.. The First table represents three categories of students' responses to the question: "If AUI had mixed dormitories, would you choose to live in it?"

The percentage of "Yes" category is (44%); "No" category represents (36%) of students asked, and the last category which is "Perhaps" is (20%).

Table 1: Attitudes by gender towards mixed dormitories

Yes		No		Perhaps	
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
59%	41%	20%	80%	50%	50%

N=100

The table demonstrates that the majority of AUI students who are against mixed dormitories are females. In contrast, there is no huge difference between male and female students who are for mixed dormitories. Also, the percentage of both genders who could not make a decision is exactly the same.

The following table shows AUI students responses to the question “How do you think having mixed dormitories at AUI would affect the academic performance students?” The percentages are given in their relation with students attitudes towards mixed dormitories.

Table 2: Possible influence of mixed dormitories on the academic performance:

	Academic Performance		
	Improve	Worsen	No effect
<b>Yes</b>	3%	57%	5%
<b>No</b>	58%	13%	30%
<b>Perhaps</b>	39%	30%	65%

N=100

Students who indicated that they would like to live in mixed dormitories were then asked to check all the possible answers that apply to them concerning the reasons that may push them to do such a choice.

The possible answers were:

- 1-The desire to be with the opposite sex.
- 2-Changing the Routine of living with the same gender.
- 3- Soften the problems with the same gender.
- 4-More opportunity to study with the opposite sex.

The study of the survey has shown that (20.5%) of students have checked all the reasons above. (13.7%) have chosen the alternatives 1, 2, 4. Students who have checked 2 and 3 only represent the same percentage (9.1%).

There were many students who have specified other reasons for accepting mixed dormitories. They believe that this experience could be a good opportunity to socialize and learn from the other gender. Additionally, the reasons behind not choosing mixed dormitories that students have cited are religion, culture, and lack of freedom.

In order to test the assumption that conflicts between roommates push students to live in mixed dormitories, students have been asked about whether they have conflicts with their roommates in order to see if they will take these conflicts into consideration while making such a decision. We have found that (57%) of students who would choose to live in mixed dormitories have conflicts with their roommates, and (31.9%) of those conflicts could be described as serious. Moreover, (50%) of students who would not choose to live this experience have conflicts with their roommates; (22.3%) of those conflicts are serious.

After addressing the question “would students choose to live in mixed dormitories?”

AUI students' parents were asked about their opinions concerning this issue in order to see whether they will allow their children to live in mixed dormitories or not. The following table represents parents' attitudes towards mixed dormitories based upon students' gender.

Table 3: Relationship between students' gender and parents attitude:

Gender	Yes	No
Male	75%	25%
Female	8,33%	91,67%

N= 20

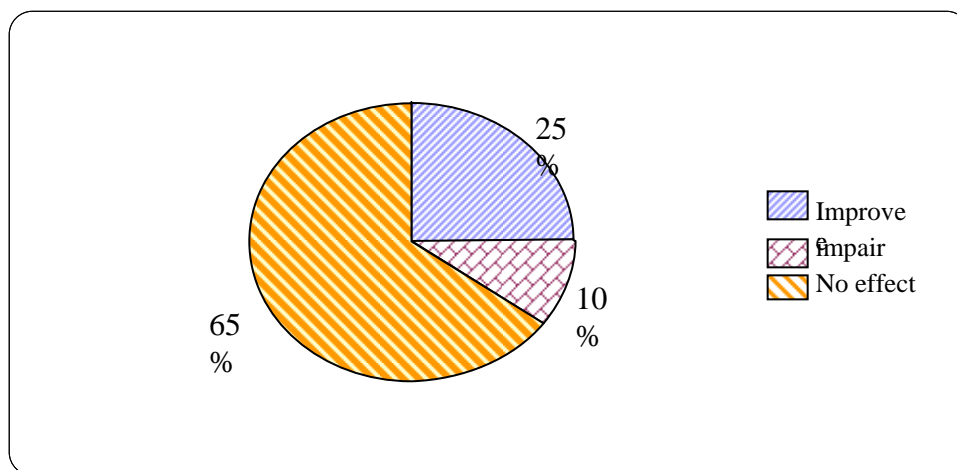
The majority of parents who have male students living at AUI think that mixed dormitories have advantages. It can improve students' academic performance, affect students' behaviors positively, and help them to communicate better than before. However, only a very small number of parents who have female students studying at AUI think so. Those who are against mixed dormitories think that students will "become like animals", there will be no respect between the two genders and the only thing that students will care about is sex.

This section will cover the data gathered from the exchange student survey.

The first notable result is that there was no significant difference between the genders about describing the experience of mixed dormitories. The majority of them said that it was a nice experience; they have learned how to become very social, to make a lot of friends from the opposite gender, to interact in a more comfortable setting, and to create freedom in mixed dormitories more than in single ones. However, a survey filled out by one girl express that the experience of living in a mixed dorm was horrible because she did not feel comfortable while living with males in the same floor. For example, at her university, they have community bathrooms, so if she wanted to take a shower, she had to get well dressed.

The following graph shows the responses of Exchange students about the experience of mixed dormitories and its impact on the academic performance.

Figure 4: The impact of mixed dormitories on students' academic performance



N=20

The last question in the Exchange student survey was whether having mixed dormitories at Al Akhawayn University would be the right decision. The majority of the sample believed that mixed dormitories will bring more openness which performs more opportunities for platonic interaction among the sexes, more communication between the genders; consequently, they can learn a lot from each other. In contrast, a minority thought that having mixed dormitories at Al Akhawayn University will be a wrong decision because “Morocco is a Muslim country, in addition, the campus is liberal enough.”

In order to gather more data, we opted to conduct two interviews: the first one with the Dean of Student's Affairs and the second one with the Housing Office Administrator.

The first interview was with the dean of student affairs. First, he confirmed that the topic of mixed dormitories has never been discussed between faculty and AUI students because the Moroccan cultural background considers this issue as a taboo. He was asked whether parents would allow their children to study at AUI if it has mixed dormitories. The

answer was that “the majority of parents will not do so except some who do not care”. Also, he admitted that the majority of students will act irrationally which may lead to undesirable situations such as secret sexual relationship. The Dean of Students’ Affairs, when asked about what might be the influence of mixed dormitories on the academic performance, replied “I think unrelated, have nothing to do with it, it won’t affect academically positively or negatively, since our campus is liberal enough for the reason that students of the opposite sex work in the same room in building 4 or in the library”. Finally, when he was asked whether the new building 38 can be considered as a mixed dorm, he didn’t agree for the fact that there are two blocks separated with a wall like we have 2 buildings, but there is a common space where boys and girls can meet.

The interview with the Housing Office Administrator has shown that mixed dormitories has never been discussed by the administration or the housing office because of religious, cultural and educational reasons. Also, the housing office administrator said that mixed dormitories have some advantages that are socializing, creating more communication between boys and girls, helping them to feel free while talking to each other, and developing more respect between them by eliminating the sexual ideas and images that the two genders may think about or see while a discussion. However, “even with these advantages mixed dormitories will not be a good idea and will not be beneficial for the university, because parents won't allow their children, especially their daughters, to study at AUI. Finally, the Housing Office Administrator said that mixed dormitories will have no effect on students’ academic performance since there are many places in the campus where the two genders can meet and study together like the library and the game room.

Both the Dean of Students Affairs and the Housing office administrator agree on the fact that mixed dormitories has never been discussed because of cultural reasons, and that

mixed dormitories will not be a good idea to implement since the majority of parents will not allow their children to study at AUI.

The AUI student survey has shown that the majority of students who are against mixed dormitories are females. In the same, the majority of parents who said that they will not allow their children to live in a mixed dorm have female students. Furthermore, the majority of both respondents in AUI student survey and in Exchange student survey have stated that mixed dormitories has no effect on students' academic performance.

## Discussion and Conclusion

### Discussion

In order to conduct an interview with both the Dean of Students 'Affairs and the housing office administrator, two different interview guides were developed. An interview with the Dean of Students' Affairs was conducted in order to take benefit from his significant experience and to see the issue from an expert educational perspective. The questions asked were mainly about the impact of mixed dormitories on the academic performance. It was also important to conduct an interview with the housing office administrator to share her points of view about mixed dormitories and its relation with academic performance.

The two interviews with the Dean of Students' Affairs and the housing office administrator have shown that mixed dormitories have never been discussed before at AUI. They both mentioned cultural and educational reasons. As it is known, Morocco is a country that is still not able to discuss some issues because of cultural taboos; we, Moroccans, are not open minded enough, we grew up with some limits that we have to respect and by going beyond these them, we feel shame. Concerning educational reasons; for example, in our schools, girls and boys are educated to respect and make distance between each other. The Dean of Students' Affairs has eliminated religious reasons due to the fact that only a small

minority is still practicing all what have been mentioned in Islam and since AUI is a community where there are people from different religions.

Moreover, the Dean of Students' Affairs and the housing office administrator said that mixed dormitories have some advantages which are socializing, creating more communication between boys and girls, helping them to feel free while talking to each other, and developing more respect between them by eliminating the sexual ideas and images that the two genders may think about or see while a discussion. These advantages are very important because students will be open minded, they will feel free while talking or working with each other, and this should be applied from our childhood because "how do we want two different sex to cooperate together if they are not used to it?" Surprisingly, during the interview conducted with the Dean of Students' Affairs, he mentioned that he had already received students who suggested mixed dormitories in the campus. According to the Dean, only a few students were interested in experiencing mixed dormitories in our university. However, the majority of females have refused the idea of sharing the same floor with the opposite sex because they want more freedom in their buildings (especially when they wear revealing clothes) which is exactly the result that we have found in AUI students' survey.

Even with these advantages, the Dean of Students' Affairs and the housing office administrator have agreed not to try mixed dormitories since the majority of parents will allow their children neither living on campus, nor continuing their studies at Al Akhawayn University. If it happens, it will not be beneficial for the university since it is a private institution for higher education in which students have to pay fees for their studies, so the school will loose revenue. Also, they both agreed that the academic performance of students has nothing to do with mixed dormitories since there are other places where students can meet and study like the library and Building 4.

The main results gathered from the surveys are that the majority of AUI students who are against mixed dormitories are females; the majority of the respondents in AUI student survey who think that mixed dormitories improve the academic performance are against mixed dormitories; and the majority of AUI students who are for mixed dormitories think that it worsens students' academic performance.

The result that 80% of students who are against mixed dormitories are females could be explained from religious or cultural perspectives. Since Morocco is a Muslim country, many females wear the veil as an Islamic instruction. Thus, veiled female students will not feel free in a mixed dorm; they will be obliged to wear the veil even in the hall. In contrast, if they live in a same sex building, they will not be deprived from the right of being free. Regarding culture, Morocco has framed a set of traditions and beliefs that Moroccans should respect. More specifically, Moroccan culture allows males to do whatever they want. For example, if Moroccans see two opposite sex youngsters kissing each other before getting married, they will just blame the female. Because of this cultural background, the majority of females, even the ones who are not veiled, choose to live in a same sex building to avoid these kinds of conflicts with culture.

The results about the effect of mixed dormitories on students' academic performance were surprising since students who are for mixed dormitories think that it worsens the academic performance, and those who think that it improves students' academic outcomes are against it. From these two results, we can notice a salient contradiction. Normally, students should first take into consideration the circumstances that better serve their academic performance because their first, main goal is studying.

In trying to interpret these two results, they were combined with another result, which is the reasons that may push students to choose mixed dormitories. After combining these three results, the possible interpretation was that students, who are for mixed dormitories,

even though it impairs their academic performance, gave the priority to their needs such as the desire to be with the opposite sex and changing the routine of living with the same gender (Alternatives given in AUI student survey about the reasons that may push them to choose mixed dormitories). Furthermore, AUI students who are against mixed dormitories although they think that it improves their academic outcomes are still strongly influenced by the Moroccan culture.

Before doing the AUI student survey, there was an assumption cited in the introduction concerning the reasons that may push AUI students to choose mixed dormitories; it was thought that this choice will be based upon conflicts between roommates. More precisely, it was believable that being in a mixed dorm can soften and dull the impact of roommate problems by interacting with the opposite sex and forgetting about roommate conflicts. However, after gathering the results, it was not the case; we have found that 57% of AUI students who have chosen to live in mixed dormitories have conflicts with their roommates, and 50% of the students who did not choose to live the experience of mixed dormitories also have conflicts with their roommates; so, the percentages are almost the same. This means that the respondents did not take into consideration the fact that they have these conflicts while making a decision.

In this research paper, students' parents' opinions were introduced since they have an authority on their children. The results gathered from this survey shows that 91.67% of parents who have female students would not allow their children to live in mixed dormitories. In contrast, 75% of parents who have male students are not against the idea of allowing their children to live in mixed dormitories. It is understood from this piece of data that it can be described as a cultural matter as stated previously, Moroccan culture makes a difference between males and females. In other words, living in a mixed dorm will affect the female reputation negatively, which is not the case for the male.

From the study of these two surveys, we have realized that the biggest part of students who are against mixed dorms are females, and the biggest part of parents who will not allow their children to live in it are those who have female students. From this comparison, we can deduce that family values play a vital role in the students' decision. To clarify more, these females are influenced by the education received from their parents since they have the same view concerning this issue.

Besides, the members of the team wanted to explore exchange students opinions about mixed dormitories since they may have experienced mixed dorms, so their opinions will be based on reality rather than guesses. The majority of those exchange students found the experience wonderful and useful since they have learnt how to become sociable, how to interact with the opposite sex, and how to live the experience of mixed dormitories without considering it as a shame. Also, the majority of exchange students think that this experience does not have any effects on students' academic performance which since they have made a difference between their academic performance while living in the same sex building and in a mixed one.

Comparing the results that we have found with the literature review, there is a clear difference between the article in the Journal & University Students Housing "The Influence of Residence Hall Community on Academic Success of Male and Female Undergraduate Students" and what is found from the results of this research paper. The article said that living in the same gender building can create problems concerning their academic performance; however, the exchanged students asked, who have already lived in mixed dormitories, mentioned this experience has nothing to do with the academic performance.

## Conclusion

The results discussed above were enough to answer the main research question which is “what are the reasons that may push AUI students to choose mixed dormitories, and what might be the influence of this choice on their academic performance?”

All members of the team have learned useful methods while conducting a research. For example, while distributing the surveys, it is important to choose the right time and place in order to get credible answers. To fill out the surveys, laboratories and the library were not the appropriate places to gather data since students asked there did not answer the open questions. As a result, to gather reflecting answers of students’ opinions, it is important to give the surveys to students when they are not busy.

As follow up, it would be interesting to do a case study in a university implementing the experience of mixed dormitories because it will give us more concrete results. In other words, comparing the grades of students living in this university and others who live in a single dorm will answer the part of academic performance more realistically. However, this interesting study was not possible since mixed dormitories have never been experienced in Morocco. Finally, the implication of this study will be useful either for AUI administration since it can use the data collected from this research. Also, other students who will write in this subject will find this research paper useful.

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**If yes, why?** Check all the possible reasons below that apply to you.

The desire to be with opposite sex

Changing the routine of living with the same gender

Softening the problems with the same sex gender

More opportunity to study with the opposite sex

Other reasons (please specify):

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If you chose NO, please mention your reasons why.

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How do you think having mixed dormitories at AUI would affect the academic performance of students?

Improve       Impair/worsen       No effect

Please explain your answer below:

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If you are interested in giving more feedback about the subject, please write your e-mail:

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Thank you for your participation!

Appendix 2:Parents' survey

Our team in SSK 1202 is conducting a research about the reasons that may push students at AUI to choose mixed dormitories if they have the chance to, and what might be the influence in their academic performance. (**Please note:** mixed dormitories are those in which both male and female students live in the same building but do not share rooms. Usually in mixed dorms males and females live on separate floors but share common spaces such as a study room or lounge.) We ensure the respondents that their answers will be confidentially used for academic purposes, so feel free to fill out the survey. It will take no more than 20 minutes. Thank you for your participation

The gender of your child studying AUI:      M                   F

Do you think that mixed dormitories have some advantages? Yes       No

Do you think that mixed dormitories can increase academic outcome of students?

Yes       No

Do you think that mixed dormitories can affect students' behavior? Yes       No

If so, in what ways? (Explain your answer in the space bellow)

.....  
 .....

Do you think that mixed dormitories can help students to communicate more between

each other and help each other? Yes  No

Will you allow your child (children) to live in a mixed dormitory? Yes  No

Would you allow your child (children) to attend AUI if the university had mixed dorm on

Campus? Yes  No

Appendix 3:Exchange Student Survey

Our team in SSK 1202 is conducting a research about the reasons that may push students at AUI to choose mixed dormitories if they have the chance to, and what might be the influence in their academic performance. **(Please note:** mixed dormitories are those in which both male and female students live in the same building but do not share rooms. Usually in mixed dorms males and females live on separate floors but share common spaces such as a study room or lounge.) We ensure the respondents that their answers will be confidentially used for academic purposes, so feel free to fill out the survey. It will take no more than 15 minutes.

Gender                      M                                       F

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

University: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you already lived in mixed dormitory?

Yes                       No

**If yes, how would you describe this experience?**

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Did this experience have an impact on your academic performance?

Improve                       Impair/worsen                       No effect

If you have not, would you ever live in a mixed dorm?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

If you chose **No**, please mention your reasons?

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Do you think that having mixed dormitories at Al Akhawayn University would be the right decision?

Yes

No

Please explain your response:

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Appendix4:

Questions for the interview with the Dean of Students' Affairs:

- Did the university and the housing discuss about mixed dormitories before?
- What was the conclusion?
- Do you think that mixed dormitories has advantages?
- Do you think that parents will accept to send their children to study at Al Akhawayn University knowing that they are living in mixed dormitories?
- Do you think that mixed dormitories will affect the academic outcome of students?
- Do you think that this new experience may affect students' behaviors? How?
- Do you think that with this new policy, males and females students will communicate more between each other and help each other?
- Do you think that boys can penetrate easily to girls' room and girls to the rooms of boys?
- All students know about the new building (38), can you tell us more about it?

Appendix5:

Questions for the interview with the Housing Office Administrator:

- How long did you work at Al Akhawayn in the housing office?
- Did the University and the Housing discussed about mixed dormitories before?
- What was the conclusion?
- Do you think that mixed dormitories have advantages?
- All students know about the new building (38), can you tell us more about it?
- Why did the Housing Office think to build this new building? Is it to save space?
- Do you think that parents will accept to send their children to study at Al Akhawayn University knowing that they're living in mixed dormitories?
- Do you think that mixed dormitories will affect the academic outcome of students?
- Do you think that this new experience may affect students' behaviors? How?
- Do you think that with this new policy, males and females students will communicate more between each other and help each other?
- Do you think that boys can penetrate easily to girls' room and girls to the rooms of boys?